



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Back to School 2018:**

### **Gwinnett County Public Schools (GCPS) to hold New Teacher Orientation July 17 and 18**

Gwinnett County Public Schools' newest educators will gather at a districtwide event before the start of the new school year to learn about their new jobs and the support they will receive during their Gwinnett careers. The "GCPS New Teacher Orientation" is scheduled for **Tuesday, July 17**, and **Wednesday, July 18**.

On July 17, more than 1,300 teachers— those new to the district as well as those who were hired mid-year last school year— will convene at the **Infinite Energy Center**, 6400 Sugarloaf Parkway in Duluth at 8:30 a.m. As part of this half-day, district-level orientation, **CEO/Superintendent J. Alvin Wilbanks** will join members of the **Gwinnett County Board of Education** in welcoming the new teachers. The event also will include remarks from a representative from the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce. Teachers will learn about GCPS' culture of teaching and learning and the critical role teachers play in supporting students on their quest to success. They will hear from **Amy Crisp**, who is Gwinnett's 2018 High School Teacher of the Year, and several student representatives. Keynote speakers for the event include well-known author and speaker **John Antonetti**— who works with schools and districts throughout North America on student engagement, writing, rigor and relevance, and high-yield best practices— and author and motivational speaker **Kevin Brown**.

On July 18, middle and high school teachers will convene at Peachtree Ridge High School while elementary teachers will gather at Discovery High School for an exciting day of grade-level and curriculum-specific professional learning sessions. They will learn about Gwinnett County Public Schools' Academic Knowledge and Skills (AKS) curriculum and attend sessions to learn about the district's efforts to enhance student learning. The teachers will learn about the various instructional resources (digital and print) provided by the district to support their teaching and learning efforts. These sessions are part of GCPS' efforts to create a continual learning community that supports teachers, providing the knowledge, skills, and resources they need to be successful.

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*is to pursue excellence  
in academic knowledge,  
skills, and behavior  
for each student,  
resulting in measured  
improvement against  
local, national, and  
world-class standards.*

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religion, national origin, age, or disability in any  
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## **Additional staff development:**

District-level orientation is followed by additional days of orientation at local schools. During these days, new teachers will work with their mentors and leadership teams. As Gwinnett teachers, they can expect to work in teams of professionals, have mentors who will assist and support them in their work, and take part in ongoing staff development activities that will support their work in leading GCPS students to high levels of achievement.

In order to deliver high-quality staff development for new teachers that is standards-based, results-driven, and job-embedded, GCPS provides induction activities at the onset of their careers in Gwinnett. The system's goal is that every teacher will have high-quality staff development as part of his or her daily work, and use this learning to improve student learning.

*Media outlets needing additional information on New Teacher Orientation should contact the Department of Communication and Media Relations at 678-301-6021.*